

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

58. (Currently Amended) A method for providing antimicrobial activity on skin, the method comprising the steps of:

59. (Canceled)

61.-(Canceled)

64. (Previously presented) The method of claim 63, wherein the metallic material is silver iodide.



72-88. (canceled)

89. (Currently Amended) A method for providing antimicrobial activity on skin, the method comprising the steps of:

administering to skin a composition comprising (i) an organic polycationic polymer; (ii) ~~a metallic material~~ an antimicrobial metallic material which is substantially water-insoluble or can be rendered substantially water-insoluble; and (iii) a carrier selected from the group consisting of a cream, a lotion, a deodorant, a spray, a gel, a wax, an oil, an ointment, a soap, and an alcohol, and

forming a moisture-resistant film on the skin, thereby imparting a persistent antimicrobial activity on the skin.

90. (Currently Amended) A method for providing antimicrobial activity on skin, the method comprising the steps of:

administering to skin a composition comprising, in a dermal antiseptic formulation, a biguanide polymer, ~~a metallic material~~, an antimicrobial metallic material which is substantially water-insoluble or can be rendered substantially water-insoluble, and

forming a moisture-resistant film on the skin, thereby imparting a persistent antimicrobial activity on the skin,

wherein the dermal antiseptic formulation is selected from the group consisting of surgical scrub formulations, pre-operative skin preparations, healthcare personnel handwashes, antiseptic handwashes, antimicrobial soaps, antimicrobial creams, antimicrobial hand sanitizers, antimicrobial deodorants, antimicrobial lotions, and antimicrobial gels.

91. (Original) The method of claim 90, wherein the biguanide polymer is present as an adduct with a substantially water-insoluble organic compound.

92. (Currently Amended) A method for providing antimicrobial activity on skin, the method comprising the steps of:

administering to skin a composition comprising, in a dermal antiseptic formulation, an organic polycationic polymer and ~~a metallic material~~, an antimicrobial metallic material which is substantially water-insoluble or can be rendered substantially water-insoluble, and

forming a moisture-resistant film on the skin, thereby imparting a persistent antimicrobial activity on the skin,

wherein the dermal antiseptic formulation is selected from the group consisting of surgical scrub formulations, pre-operative skin preparations, healthcare personnel handwashes, antiseptic handwashes, antimicrobial soaps, antimicrobial creams, antimicrobial hand sanitizers, antimicrobial deodorants, antimicrobial lotions, and antimicrobial gels.

93. (Currently Amended) A method for providing antimicrobial activity on skin, the method comprising the steps of:

administering to skin a composition comprising a biguanide polymer, ~~a metallic material~~, an antimicrobial metallic material which is substantially water-insoluble or can be rendered substantially water-insoluble, and a skin-compatible component selected from the group consisting of emollients, thickeners, humectants, skin moisturizing agents, and surfactants, and

forming a moisture-resistant film on the skin, thereby imparting a persistent antimicrobial activity on the skin.

94. (Original) The method of claim 93, wherein the biguanide polymer is present as an adduct with a substantially water-insoluble organic compound.

95. (Currently amended) A method for providing antimicrobial activity on skin, the method comprising the steps of:

administering to skin a composition comprising (i) an organic polycationic polymer; (ii) ~~a metallic material~~ an antimicrobial metallic material which is substantially water-insoluble or can be rendered substantially water-insoluble; and (iii) a skin-compatible component selected from

the group consisting of emollients, thickeners, humectants, skin moisturizing agents, and surfactants, and

forming a moisture-resistant film on the skin, thereby imparting a persistent antimicrobial activity on the skin.

96. (Currently Amended) A method for providing antimicrobial activity on skin, the method comprising the steps of:

administering to skin, by spreading or immersion, a composition comprising a biguanide polymer, ~~a metallic material~~, an antimicrobial metallic material which is substantially water-insoluble or can be rendered substantially water-insoluble, and

forming a moisture-resistant film on the skin, thereby imparting a persistent antimicrobial activity on the skin.

97. (Original) The method of claim 96, wherein the biguanide polymer is present as an adduct with a substantially water-insoluble organic compound.

98. (Currently Amended) A method for providing antimicrobial activity on skin, the method comprising the steps of:

administering to skin, by spreading or immersion, a composition comprising an organic polycationic polymer and ~~a metallic material~~, an antimicrobial metallic material which is substantially water-insoluble or can be rendered substantially water-insoluble, and

forming a moisture-resistant film on the skin, thereby imparting a persistent antimicrobial activity on the skin.

99. (Previously presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the film is sweat-resistant.

100. (Previously presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the film does not leach into a contacting aqueous solution.

101. (Previously presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the metallic material is selected from the group consisting of a metal, a metal salt, a metal complex, a metal alloy, and combinations thereof.

102. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the metallic material binds to cellular proteins of microorganisms and is toxic to microorganisms.